

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02 H-03 INR-10 INT-08

L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 AID-20

CIEP-02 SS-20 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 FEA-02 OMB-01 AF-10 NEA-10 OIC-04 DRC-01

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R 081705Z MAR 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4527

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILPA

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AMEMBASSY MEXICO

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PASS STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT

SUBJECT: TNC, WORKING GROUP ON NTBS, MARCH 4-7

SUMMARY: MEETING CONCERNED LARGELY WITH PROCEDURAL MATTERS WAS HIGHLIGHTED BY CONSIDERATION OF EXPORT RESTRICTIONS, INCLUDING SHORT SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS. MANY DELS PARTICIPATED IN THIS DISCUSSION BUT NO AGREEMENT REACHED ON HOW TO INITIATE WORK ON THIS QUESTION. GROUP AGREED TO WORK PROGRAM FOR PACKAGING AND LABELLING, IMPORT DOCUMENTATION, SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, AND NTB INVENTORY. END SUMMARY.

1. EXPORT RESTRICTIONS. US (KELLY) SUPPORTED EC (ABBOTT) PROPOSAL THAT SECRETARIAT DEVELOP BASIC INFORMATION EXPORT RESTRICTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING. U.S. ALSO PROPOSED THAT SECRETARIAT PREPARE BACKGROUND NOTE ON GATT PROVISIONS RELATING TO EXPORT RESTRICTIONS. PROPOSALS SUPPORTED BY JAPAN AND INDIA WITH STIPULATION THAT SECRETARIAT STUDY BE LIMITED TO MEASURES NOTIFIED BY COUNTRIES AS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THEIR TRADE. AUSTRALIA AND SWITZERLAND ALSO SUPPORTED FACT-FINDING STUDY. CANADA (DENIS) AND ROMANIA, WHILE NOT RPT NOT OPPOSING FACT-FINDING, QUESTIONED WHETHER NTB GROUP HAS MANDATE TO GO BEYOND STUDY OF VOLUNTARY EXPORT RESTRAINTS AND PROPOSED THAT THIS EXTENSION OF WORK PROGRAM BE CONSIDERED BY TNC. ALGERIA, PHILIPPINES, VENEZUELA, AND IRAQ WERE UNPREPARED TO DISCUSS BROADER EXPORT RESTRICTION PROBLEM AND WERE CLEARLY WORRIED ABOUT RELATIONSHIP TO PETROLEUM. U.S. STATEMENT THAT PETROLEUM RESTRICTIONS WERE TEMPORARY AND COULD BE SPECIFICALLY EXCLUDED FROM STUDY, AND PRIVE CONVERSATION WITH ALGERIAN DEL, DID MUCH TO RELIEVE LDC CONCERNS BUT GROUP STILL UNABLE TO REACH AGREEMENT. GROUP WILL RECONSIDER QUESTION MAY 28.

2. QUANTITATIVE RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS. U.S. REITERATED LONG-STANDING POSITION THAT:

(A) SEPARATE TREATMENT SHOULD BE GIVEN LEGAL AND ILLEGAL QRS AND THAT NO COMPENSATION SHOULD BE PAID FOR ELIMINATION OF ILLEGAL QRS. (SUPPORT FROM CANADA, ROMANIA, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CZECHO, PAKISTAN, AND MALAYSIA.)

(B) LIBERALIZATION OF QRS SHOULD APPLY TO BOTH LDCS AND DCS. (NO SUPPORT BUT NO OUTCRY FROM LDCS.)

(C) MANY QRS ON IMPORTS AND EXPORT RESTRAINTS ARE SAFEGUARD MEASURES AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY SAFEGUARDS GROUP ESTABLISHED BY TNC ON FEBRUARY 7. (SUPPORT FROM AUSTRALIA.)

GROUP GENERALLY AGREED WITH EC POSITION THAT TIME NOT

RIPE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF TWO ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS FOR ELIMINATING QRS DEVELOPED BY COMMITTEE ON TRADE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS (SPEC(73)17). EC FELT THAT FURTHER PROGRESS COULD ONLY BE MADE IN CONTEXT OF NEGOTIATIONS PROPER.

3. PACKAGING AND LABELLING. AT EC (SCHLOSSER) SUGGESTION, DISCUSSED IN ADVANCE WITH U.S., AND SUPPORTED BY NORDICS, SWISS, AND JAPANESE, GROUP AGREED THAT WORK SHOULD BEGIN WITH GENERAL DISCUSSION OF TRADE PROBLEMS CAUSED BY PACKAGING AND LABELLING REQUIREMENTS. GROUP WOULD THEN EXAMINE ACTIVITIES OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THIS FIELD AND CONSIDER EXTENT TO WHICH THESE PROBLEMS COVERED BY PROPOSED GATT STANDARDS CODE. AT U.S. SUGGESTION, CHAIR (PATTERSON AND KAUTZOR-SCHRODER) ANNOUNCED THAT MARKS OF ORIGIN NOT INCLUDED UNDER GROUP'S MANDATE. GROUP AGREED TO MEET AT EXPERT LEVEL ON MAY 7-9 TO INITIATE WORK.

4. IMPORT DOCUMENTATION. EC PROPOSED AND GROUP AGREED THAT USEFUL WORK IN THIS FIELD WOULD BE CONSIDER TYPES OF INFORMATION NECESSARY FOR CUSTOMS CLEARANCE OF IMPORTS SUCH AS PROPOSED BY U.S. IN 1970 (COM.IND/W/79 ANNEXES D AND E). WORK DONE IN ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE AND CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL WOULD ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. GROUP WILL MEET AT EXPERT LEVEL ON MAY 9-10.

5. NTB DOCUMENTATION:

A. INVENTORY OF NON-TARIFF MEASURES. DELEGATIONS ARE INVITED TO NOTIFY SECRETARIAT BY MAY 15 OF NEW OR MODIFIED ITEMS IN INVENTORY THAT THEY WANT REVIEWED BY GROUP AND, WHERE APPROPRIATE, TO DISCUSS INDIVIDUAL NOTIFICATIONS BILATERALLY BEFORE SUCH CONSIDERATION. GROUP ALSO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREED TO CONSIDER WHETHER NTB CATEGORIES IN SECRETARIAT ILLUSTRATIVE LIST (ANNEX TO MTN/3B/6) SHOULD BE REVISED. IN RESPONSE TO LDC REQUESTS, SECRETARIAT WILL REVIEW INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO IT AND IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS (UNCTAD) ON NON-TARIFF MEASURES AFFECTING LDC TRADE FOR POSSIBLE INCLUSION IN INVENTORY. U.S.N SUPPORTED BY CANADA AND JAPAN, PROPOSED THAT INVENTORY SHOULD CONTAIN INDICATION OF PROBLEMS THAT WOULD BE SOLVED BY AD REFERENDUM SOLUTIONS ALREADY WORKED OUT IN FIELDS OF STANDARDS, IMPORT LICENSING, AND CUSTOMS VALUATION. GROUP UNABLE TO ACCEPT THIS PROPOSAL, DUE MAINLY TO EC AND SWISS OBJECTIONS. GROUP AGREED TO REVERT TO MATTER AT LATER DATE.

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B. JOINT WORKING GROUP. JWG DOCUMENTATION BEING REVISED BY SECRETARIAT. GROUP AGREED THAT INDICATIVE LIST OF ITEMS OF EXPORT INTEREST TO LDCS CONTAINED IN ANNEX IV OF COM.IND/W/97/COM.AG/W/92 SHOULD BE ENLARGED. SECRETARIAT WILL ASSIST LDCS IN IDENTIFICATION OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR INCLUSION. JAPANESE OPPOSITION PREVENTED AGREEMENT ON SECRETARIAT PROPOSAL TO DELETE NOTIFICATIONS THAT NOW COVERED UNDER MULTI-FIBER TEXTILE AGREEMENT. AT U.S. INSISTENCE GROUP WILL REVERT TO THIS PROPOSAL AT LATER MEETING.

C. NON-TARIFF MEASURES AFFECTING LDC TRADE. SECRETARIAT WILL UPDATE AND AMPLIFY EXISTING DOCUMENTATION. AT REQUEST OF BRAZIL SECRETARIAT WILL ALSO PREPARE LIST OF PRODUCTS INCLUDED UNDER GSP SCHEMES THAT ARE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY NTBS.

6. EXPORT SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES. AT REQUEST OF CANADA, WHICH INTENDS TO TABLE PAPER ON COUNTERVAIL, THIS TOPIC WAS NOT INCLUDED ON AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING. AT INSISTENCE OF EC, WHICH DISTURBED BY THIS EXCLUSION, GROUP AGREED THAT ALL TASKS ASSIGNED TO IT BY TNC SHOULD BE GIVEN "EQUAL WEIGHT" AND THAT GROUP SHOULD MEET AT EXPERT LEVEL TO DISCUSS SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES ON MAY 29-31.

7. ORGANIZATION OF WORK PROGRAM. JAPAN URGED AMBITIOUS WORK PROGRAM WITH CREATION OF SEVERAL SUB-GROUPS, EACH TO HOLD TWO OR THREE MEETINGS BEFORE SUMMER BREAK. ALTHOUGH JAPAN SUPPORTED BY U.S. , CANADA, AND SOME LDCS, MUCH THINNER PROGRAM ADOPTED BECAUSE OF EC OPPOSITION. NO SUBGROUPS ESTABLISHED BUT GROUP AGREED TO FOLLOWING MEETINGS AT "EXPERT" LEVEL:

MAY 7-8, PACKAGING AND LABELLING

MAY 9-10, IMPORT DOCUMENTATION

MAY 19-31, EXPORT SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES.

ADDITIONAL MEETINGS CAN BE SCHEDULED BY "EXPERTS". THE FOLLOWING "GENERAL" NTB MEETINGS WERE ALSO SCHEDULED:

MAY 28, EXPORT RESTRICTIONS

JUNE 25-28, NTB INVENTORY. DALE

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 08 MAR 1974
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Subject: TNC, WORKING GROUP ON NTBS, MARCH 4-7 SUMMARY: MEETING CONCERNED LARGELY WITH PROCEDURAL MATTERS
TAGS: ETRD, GATT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005